

SACRAMENTO RIVER ADVISORY COUNCIL

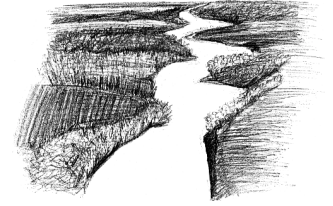
*c/o CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
2440 MAIN STREET*

RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA 96080

~ SB 1086 Notes ~

Denny Bungarz, Chair • (530) 934-7342 • dbungarz@glenncounty.net

Burt Bundy, Sacramento River Conservation Area Coordinator • (530) 528-7411 • bundy@water.ca.gov



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MOA SIGNING UPDATE

The MOA signing process is moving ahead at breakneck speed—as these processes go. Four Counties—Glenn, Colusa, Shasta, and Tehama, and four state entities—The Wildlife Conservation Board, the Reclamation Board, the Department of Parks & Recreation, and the State Lands Commission, as well as the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service have signed. Several other agencies and groups are in the process of signature authorization.

BUTTE BASIN WORKSHOP

A diverse group of interested parties sponsored a workshop in Durham to discuss the Butte Basin By-pass system and the related 1997 Ayres Report. Over a hundred people listened to speakers from the Reclamation Board, Corps of Engineers, DWR, and the Ayres consulting firm discuss problems associated with flows at the flood relief structures. The event was sponsored by the California Central Valley Flood Control Association, Sacramento Valley Landowners Association, The Nature Conservancy, and Western Canal Water District. In addition, it was supported by a number of organizations and agencies, including SB1086, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, State Reclamation Board, Department of Water Resources, Army Corps of Engineers, and others. Both short term and long term solutions are being pursued.

FIELD TOUR AT RIO VISTA

At our May Riparian Habitat Comm. meeting there was interest expressed by landowners for a tour of the River Vista Restoration Site. The Nature Conservancy has set Wednesday, September 29, starting at 8 a.m., for a tour of

the site. Landowners or others interested in viewing restoration efforts at this location are welcome to attend. Please contact Amy Hoss at (530) 897-6372 if you would like to receive future information or direction to the site.

MOA FORMATION COMMITTEE MEETS

Four County Supervisors and State Agency representatives met for the first meeting of a committee to start the process to form the Non-Profit Organization (NPO) as decreed by the Memorandum of Agreement. The process of formation, which includes filing with the State Franchise Tax Board and the Federal IRS, was outlined, and questions such as; What will be the fiscal year, the name of the organization and what is the time line for formation, were discussed. A review of the criteria for the appointees to the Board of Directors was presented by the Coordinator, and it was agreed that he would prepare a flyer that can be used to inform interested individuals as to the requirements. Glenn County Supervisor Denny Bungarz was named Chairman of the Committee.

RIPARIAN HABITAT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Both the last two meetings of the Riparian Habitat Committee have been very well attended and productive. The highlight of the July 14 meeting was the presentation on the Reclamation Board Encroachment permit process by Chief Engineer Ricardo Pineda, which inspired a healthy discussion of the process. The August 11, meeting included a discussion of the “Hard Points” language for the Handbook. This extended debate on a very sensitive issue seems to be resolved with final wording to be presented at the next meeting. It was announced that a “Working

Group" would be formed around both the Woodson Bridge and Hamilton City sub-reaches, and for those interested to contact Burt. Dan Efseaff of the Sacramento River Partners gave an update on the restoration on Behive Bend and the Thomas Unit. The next Riparian Habitat meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., September 9, at the Maxwell Inn. An extensive agenda is set for that meeting with a discussion of a project review process on top of the list.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE IS MOVING

USFWS is in the process of moving back to their offices on Cottage Way in Sacramento. If you are having problems getting through to someone in that agency, call the main phone number at (916) 414-6600.

MURPHY SLOUGH RESTORATION PROJECT

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers restoration project at Murphy Slough should soon be underway. The construction portion of the contract has been let, and the Corps will soon be putting the revegetation contract out to bid.

TNC RIVER TOUR

A jet boat tour on the Sacramento River from Red Bluff to Ord Bend Bridge was hosted by

The Nature Conservancy to give the participants an up-close look at River issues and solutions. A view of the restoration and erosion process at the Flynn Unit provided a unique example of river processes at work. Presentations were made at both the Woodson Bridge and Hamilton City sub-reaches which offer the opportunity to address both flood control and restoration needs. A wet and cold morning evolved into a pleasant afternoon and an informative day that helped those involved understand the River and SB1086 a little better.

Up-Coming Meetings

August 23 - Outreach Subcommittee, 2 p.m. Glenn County Board of Supervisor's Conference Room, Willows. Marlyce Myers, (916) 449-2851.

August 30 - Reclamation Board, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, Room 1603 Public Workshop on resolution Re: Restoration projects and other encroachments. Pam Bruner, (916) 653-5434

September 9 - SB1086 Riparian Habitat Committee meeting, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. U.S. Forest Service Office, 825 Humbolt, Willows. Julie Cunningham, (530) 529-7307.

September 29-8 a.m., TNC River Vista Restoration field tour. Amy Hoss, (530) 897-6372

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